

# Foster Creek Conservation District

## Other Accomplishments



205 BMPs were implemented through the Biological Weed Control Program.



Stream Monitoring and Spawning Surveys on over 140 stream miles improving riparian areas along approximately fifty stream miles.



Approximately 500 elementary students went through the soil display at Douglas County Fair.

## 2008 Feature Accomplishment

### Foster Creek Conservation District Biological Weed Control Program

#### *Resource Challenge*

Douglas County consists of 1.2 million acres of arid grasslands and shrubsteppe in North Central Washington. Due to the low annual precipitation, the native plant communities are sensitive to disturbance and take long periods to recover to their natural state. Weeds cause significant disturbance to the native plant communities as well as the farming and ranching operations in the county.



*Mecinus janthinus*  
stem-boring weevil

#### *Project Summary and Results*

In an effort to control and/or eradicate invasive weed species, Foster Creek Conservation District (FCCD) works with WSU Extension and Douglas County to distribute biological weed controls (bugs) on agricultural and range lands throughout the county.

- Worked with over 100 cooperators to treat weed species on their lands.
- Utilized state cost share dollars for the release of 25,000 biological controls in the county.
- Distributed biological controls and recorded their locations with global positioning system (GPS) to create county-wide map.
- Identified additional locations for future releases.
- Assisted landowners enrolled in the USDA Conservation Reserve Program in meeting their contractual weed control goals.
- Created outreach materials, web pages, and district fair displays

#### *Key Project Partners*

South Douglas Conservation District, WSU Extension, Douglas County, Washington State Conservation Commission; Washington State Department of Ecology; USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

## Contact Information

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Board of Supervisors:  
John McLean, Chair  
Lee Hemmer, Vice-Chair  
Sharon Davis, Auditor  
Wade Troutman, Member  
Howard McDonald, Member

## More Work to Do

#### *Douglas County Multi Species Habitat Conservation Plan:*

- Finalizing negotiations for 20 species on non-federal agricultural lands.

#### *Watershed Planning:*

- Implementation of action plan for WRIAs 44 & 50
- Stream bank erosion control projects to improve water quality

#### *Integrated Pest Management:*

- Continue implementation on approximately 85 properties

#### *Environmental Education:*

- Regional Envirothon for 60 area high school students
- Wheat Week and Soil Education for elementary students